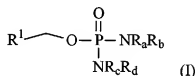


In the Claims

Please cancel claims 3-4, 8-11, 26 and 30 and amend claims 25, 28-29 and 31 as follows:

1. (Original) A compound a compound of formula I:



wherein:

R¹ is an organic releasing group comprising a quinone ring;

R_a, R_b, R_c, and R_d are each independently hydrogen, (C₁-C₆)alkyl, or -CH₂CH₂X;

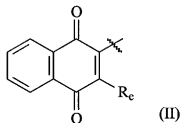
and

each X is independently halo, (C₁-C₆)alkylsulfonyl, halo(C₁-C₆)alkylsulfonyl, or arylsulfonyl, wherein each aryl is optionally substituted with one or more (e.g. 1, 2, 3, or 4) halo, (C₁-C₆)alkyl, halo(C₁-C₆)alkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkoxy, (C₁-C₆)alkanoyl, (C₁-C₆)alkanoyloxy, (C₁-C₆)alkoxycarbonyl, cyano, nitro, or trifluoromethoxy;

provided at least two of R_a, R_b, R_c, and R_d are -CH₂CH₂X;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

2. (Original) The compound of claim 1 wherein R¹ is a group of formula (II):



wherein R_c is hydrogen, halo, (C₁-C₆)alkyl, halo(C₁-C₆)alkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkoxy, (C₁-C₆)alkanoyloxy, cyano, nitro, or (C₁-C₆)alkylthio; and

wherein the benz ring is optionally substituted by one or more (e.g. 1, 2, 3, or 4) hydroxy, halo,

(C₁-C₆)alkyl, halo(C₁-C₆)alkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkoxy, (C₁-C₆)alkylthio; (C₁-C₆)alkanoyl, (C₁-C₆)alkanoyloxy, (C₁-C₆)alkoxycarbonyl, cyano, nitro, mercapto, trifluoromethoxy, or NR_fR_g; wherein each R_f and R_g is independently hydrogen, (C₁-C₆)alkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkanoyl, phenyl, benzyl, or phenethyl; or R_f and R_g together with the nitrogen to which they are attached are pyrrolidino, piperidino or morpholino.

Claims 3-4 (Cancelled).

5. (Original) The compound of claim 1 wherein X is bromo, chloro, mesyl, trifluoromethylsulfonyl, or tosyl.
6. (Original) The compound of claim 1 wherein X is bromo.
7. (Original) The compound of claim 2 wherein R_c is hydrogen, halo, methyl, or methylthio.

Claims 8-11 (Cancelled).

12. (Original) The compound of claim 1 wherein R_a is (C₁-C₆)alkyl.
13. (Original) The compound of claim 1 wherein R_c is (C₁-C₆)alkyl.
14. (Original) The compound of claim 1 wherein R_a and R_b are each independently -CH₂CH₂X.
15. (Original) The compound of claim 1 wherein R_c, and R_d are each independently -CH₂CH₂X.
16. (Original) The compound of claim 1 wherein R_b and R_d are each independently

-CH₂CH₂X.

17. (Original) The compound of claim 1 wherein R_a is methyl.
18. (Original) The compound of claim 1 wherein R_c is methyl.
19. (Original) The compound of claim 1 wherein R_a and R_b are each -CH₂CH₂Br.
20. (Original) The compound of claim 1 wherein R_c and R_d are each -CH₂CH₂Br.
21. (Original) The compound of claim 1 wherein R_b and R_d are each -CH₂CH₂Br.
22. (Original) The compound of claim 1 wherein R_a and R_b are each independently -CH₂CH₂Cl.
23. (Original) The compound of claim 1 wherein R_c and R_d are each independently -CH₂CH₂Cl.
24. (Original) The compound of claim 1 wherein R_b and R_d are each independently -CH₂CH₂Cl.
25. (Currently Amended) The compound of claim 1 which is:
2-(1,4-naphthoquinonyl)methyl *N,N*-bis(2-chloroethyl) phosphorodiamidate;
2-(3-methyl-1,4-naphthoquinonyl)methyl *N,N*-bis(2-chloroethyl) phosphorodiamidate;
2-(3-thiomethyl-1,4-naphthoquinonyl)methyl *N,N*-bis(2-chloroethyl)
phosphorodiamidate;
2-(3-bromo-1,4-naphthoquinonyl)methyl *N,N*-bis(2-chloroethyl) phosphorodiamidate;
2-(1,4-naphthoquinonyl)methyl *N,N*-bis(2-bromoethyl) phosphorodiamidate;
2-(3-methyl-1,4-naphthoquinonyl)methyl *N,N*-bis(2-bromoethyl) phosphorodiamidate;

2-(1,4-naphthoquinonyl)methyl bis[N-(2-chloroethyl)] phosphorodiamidate;
2-(1,4-naphthoquinonyl)methyl bis[N-methyl-N-(2-bromoethyl)]phosphorodiamidate;
2-(3-methyl-1,4-naphthoquinonyl)methyl bis[N-methyl-N-(2-bromoethyl)]
phosphorodiamidate;
2-(1,4-naphthoquinonyl)methyl bis[N-methyl-N-(2-chloroethyl)] phosphorodiamidate;
3-(5-Methoxy-1-methyl-4,7-indolequinonyl)-methyl bis[N-methyl-N-(2-bromoethyl)]
phosphorodiamidate;
3-(5-Methoxy-1-methyl-4,7-indolequinonyl)methyl N,N-bis(2-bromoethyl)-
phosphorodiamidate;
2-(5-Methoxy-1-methyl-4,7-indolequinonyl)methyl bis[N-methyl-N-(2-bromoethyl)]-
phosphorodiamidate;
2-(5-Methoxy-1-methyl-4,7-indolequinonyl)methyl N,N-bis(2-chloroethyl)-
phosphorodiamidate; or
2-(5-Methoxy-1-methyl-4,7-indolequinonyl)methyl N,N-bis(2-bromoethyl)-
phosphorodiamidate;
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

Claim 26 (Cancelled).

27. (Original) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound of claim 1, in combination with a pharmaceutically acceptable diluent or carrier.
28. (Currently Amended) A therapeutic method for killing cancer cells or inhibiting their growth or proliferation preventing or treating cancer comprising administering to a mammal in need of such therapy, an effective amount of a compound of claim 1.
29. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 28 wherein herein the cancer is a solid tumor.

Claim 30 (Cancelled).

31. (Currently Amended) A method for preparing a compound of formula I as described in claim 1 [[I]], wherein R¹ is a group of formula II, ~~III, or IV,~~ comprising oxidizing a corresponding compound of formula I wherein R¹ is a group of formula VI, ~~VII, or VIII.~~